



THE STYRENE SHEET

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Editor's Ravings – This month's editor, Bill Ferrante

Not much to say from me this month (I know you are disappointed) because we need the room for the articles. Congratulations to the winners of the last month's elections. We can still use more articles. Thanks to long distance members Bill Dye and Rodney Williams for their input for this month's issue. On to the good stuff.

Bill

"ANOTHER RENO RACER" YES INDEED – A 1/48 scale F7F TIGERCAT

Model and photos by: Rodney J. Williams

Here I am again with another Grumman air racer. I can not find my building plans, so I don't remember who made the kit. What makes the difference and/or who care's? (Ed. It was made by AMT/ERTL)

My first photo shows the real aircraft at the 1968 Reno, Nevada USA air show. Other than that, I don't know the history about the airplane.



“CONSTRUCTION”

This model is about 97% out-of-the-box.

The cockpit was the first item that I worked on which went together real nice. I glued the fuselage together and accomplished the normal sanding, inspection procedures and flaw fixing that we all have to do on our models.

I hand crafted some additional items which can be seen on top of the real aircraft's fuselage centerline.

I used .010" diameter round white styrene rod to make my antenna wires which were added on final assembly, including my human hair antenna wire.

“PAINTING”

The model was first painted all over with Tamiya X-2 Gloss White then I added the X-7 Gloss Red and applied my X-1 Gloss Black. I waited about a week or so between color applications. This way, the gloss colors should be extra dry so that your low tack masking tape with not leave its' imprint on the finish



To achieve the two tone colors of the aluminum I applied Tamiya XF-16 Flat Aluminum first then mask off some areas and then sprayed on my new X-32 Titanium Silver.

“DECALS”

Since I used gloss paints I did not over coat the model with Future before I started to apply the decals.

My trusted decal maker, Dave Newman designed and printed the decals for the tail, fuselage and the number “62” for the top of the left wing.



The letters and numbers of “N6129C” came from my 1985 “Microscale” decal sheets. I cut around each number and letter, including the insides of the “6” & “9.” I applied the black decals first. After they were dry for about a week, I carefully attached the white decals. I just “eyeballed” it, as we say in “American English” for proper alignment. The Grumman logo decals that are on the outside of the engine cowlings came from my old Testors decal sheet for my “Al Williams Gulfhawk - 4, 1/48 scale F8F-2 Bearcat.” I sprayed on some Future over the wing and tail decals. I did not apply any future over the red fuselage decals as I did not want to screw up my two tone aluminum paint job.



To get the model to set on its’ nose gear I placed lead “bb’s” right behind each engine nacelle, and on the inside bottom of the fuselage just behind the nose gear. The model is very heavy to say the least. So far the nose gear has not bent after almost two years.

This model is a nice addition to all of my racing models and I hope you like it.

Bye for now from the old master modeler.

Rodney J. Williams © 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR AS OF SVSM MEETING 06-19-09

Saturday, June 20 2009

IPMS/Ontario present Region 8 Ontario IPMS Mini-Con 2009 at Ontario Senior Center, 225 E. "B" St in Ontario CA. Don't miss it!

Saturday, July 25 2009

IPMS/Dragon Lady proudly host the Region 9 Regional Contest at their new larger locale. Event will be held at First United Methodist Church, 3101 Colusa Hwy, Yuba City CA. Theme is "Peace Was Our Profession" to celebrate the rich history of the Strategic Air Command in North CA. Numerous special awards planned as well as exhibits, movies and of course lots of competition categories. Visit website at myspace.com/ipmsdragonlady

Sunday, August 9 2009

IPMS San Diego Model Car Club presents Lower Left Coast NNL which will be held at Al Bahr Shrine Auditorium at 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd, IPMS San Diego Model Car Club. For more information contact Darryl Gassaway at 619-284-2157.

Saturday, September 12 2009

IPMS Reno High Rollers present their 10th Annual contest which will be held at Desert Heights Elementary School, located at 13948 Mt. Bismark St. Reno, NV. For more information see their site at www.renohighrollers.com or contact Douglas E. Summers at 775-835-0140.

Saturday, September 19 2009

Oregon Historical Modelers Society present Evergreen Air & Space Museum Show and Contest 2009 Held at the Evergreen Air & Space Museum, 500 NE Michael King Smith Way McMinnville, OR, They are offering 66 categories of competition, large number of vendor tables. Featuring of course marvelous museum exhibits, all entrants and spectators will have to pay at least minimum (1 wing) museum admit. more information contact [Brian Yee at 503-309-6137](mailto:byee1959@gmail.com) or E-MAIL: byee1959@gmail.com or see Website <http://www.geocities.com/oregonshow>

Saturday, October 17 2009

IPMS/Fremont Hornets host Tri City Classic 6 at the Newark Community Center, 33501 Cedar Boulevard, Newark CA. Theme is "From Russia With Love" this year, with several special 'theme' awards as well as 43 categories of competition planned. More details and contact data will be forthcoming as year progresses.

Saturday, November 14 2009

IPMS/Craig Hewitt present their event ModelZona 2009 at the Commemorative Air Force Museum, 2017 N. Greenfield Rd, Mesa AZ. For details, contact Keenan Chittester 480-636-9720

Saturday, December 5 2009

IPMS/Silver Wings present their event Winter Classic 2009 at the Joseph Kerr Middle School 8865 Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove, CA. For details, contact Art Silen email artsilen@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, February 20 2010

IPMS/Santa Rosa will hold Hobby Expo 2010 at Petaluma Community Center 320 North McDowell Blvd in Petaluma. For more information go to their website at www.ipmssantarosa.org or contact John Admire .

Saturday, March 20 2010

IPMS/Silicon Valley Scale Modelers host their SVSM 2010 Kickoff Classic at Hall "B" (near front this time!) of the Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara CA. Theme is "News at Eleven..." - any subject from the last 10 years. Offering competition in 51 Senior, 5 Junior and 4 Youth categories, plus several special 'theme' awards as well as a raffle, displays and special events.

Vendor contact: gregplummer@gregplummer.com, see also club website www.svsm.org for updates.

The Revell USS Nautilus

Or

So I decided to build a submarine

by

Bill Dye

Introduction

It's a tube with fins . . kind of like a rocket but not really. This kit was, again, a nostalgic trip for me. This one made it to my bathtub when I was around eight years old. Right along with the USS Forrestal with all the little planes with their little wings folded up . . and several fell off the carrier to the bottom of the tub . . OUCH!! To have THAT kit now too . . . with the 1950s jets no less!

So I purchased the re-issued Nautilus and I took it with me on a three week long business trip to DC . . I KNOW! (And while I was there I went to the Fairfax, VA IPMS meeting; nice folks.)



The Kit:

Well it's 1/350ish scale and it is a re-release of the same kit from the 1950's. I built it then too, but it didn't take as long then as it did this time. It is gray plastic and basically just the two halves of the sub with parts for the fins, periscope thingies and the tank and rocket. My decals seemed OK but the paper had yellowed considerably. It comes with a little stand that plugs into two holes in the bottom of the vessel.



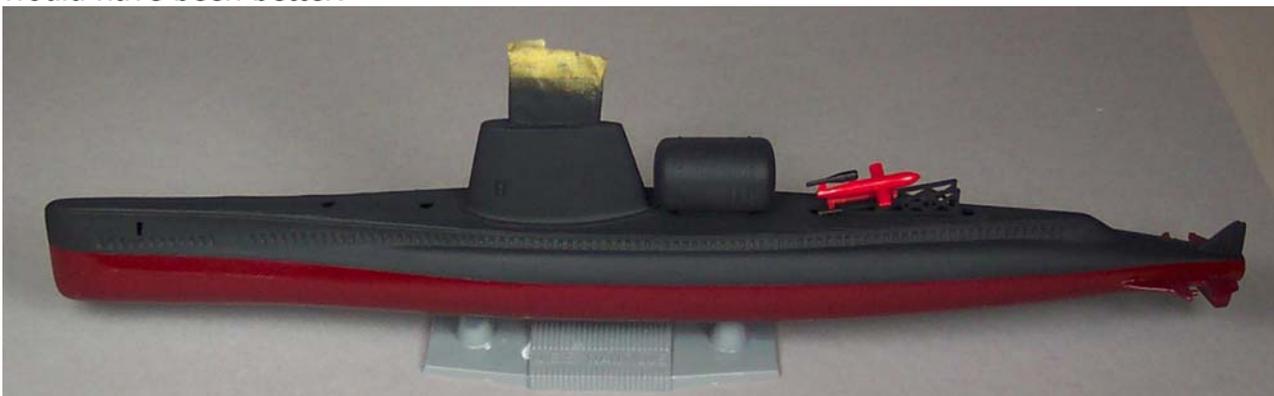
Some history:

I'm not a submarine aficionado but I certainly remember the Nautilus. My Uncle gave me a poster of it many yeas ago (it's gone; yes, in the same trash can that held the remains of the Revell XSL-01 Space Rocket). I do remember that it was the first atomic sub and the first to go completely under the North Pole. I was curious about the rocket though so I went to the web and lo and behold the Nautilus never had such a lash-up. It was another boat.

So now the dilemma: build it to be the real Nautilus without the rocket and tank or out of the box. I decided to put my head in the sand and build it out of the box . . . after all, I wanted this mostly for nostalgia . . . although I just might now buy another submarine; great, another stash to build up!

The Build:

In a word: simple. Even I could handle this. The only difficult, or rather annoying, part was the periscope farm. To attach it before painting or after, that was the question. I chose after but ended up puckying the rectangular joint on top of the conning tower with Mr. Surfacer. So before would have been better.



The paint: First I just assumed that Revell just made the sub black for the box art. I put on some grey thinking that it looked sort of submarine gray. But then an email from Bill Ferrante put me on a different path. A few photos he sent me were all I needed (thanks Bill). I painted everything below the water line Testors dark red and then everything else (except the rocket) Model Master Interior Black. I glossed the whole model with water based Varathane thinned 10% water and put on the decals. Over the decals I sprayed on a coat of semi-gloss Varathane. Previously I filled in the torpedo openings so I depicted doors with a slightly different shade of paint. Tired of masking, I painted a clear decal and cut out rectangles and applied them. I painted the propellers gold (mostly for effect) and glued them on along with the rocket, launcher and tank.



The most time consuming thing was flash clean up, especially the propellers (I bet I could get some after market metal ones that would look a whole lot better).

Even though this was my first (well second if you count the one I built 50 years ago) submarine build and even though I'm not familiar at all with other submarine kits, this kit *did* build up pretty well considering it's 50ish years old hey, not to bad.

I painted the stand gold . . what the hey.



Done Bury me with sandpaper.

ANNOUNCING CLUB “FUN-TESTS” FOR SUMMER 2009 & BEYOND

“ RED WHITE AND BLUE “ for our JULY 2009 meeting

Eligible subjects are: ANY SCALE, FINISHED, primarily Red, White or Blue subjects, or combinations thereof. Chaparrals, Ferraris, 40s & 50s US Navy or Aeronavale are easy picks. Bicentennial schemes, any subjects that didn't make “It's Red” this year, NASA stuff, scheme at it you'll surprise us as well as yourself with your entry idea. Thanks again for idea to the unnamed member who tossed it at me during dinner...

IT's “ T ” TIME! SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME for NOVEMBER 2009

Eligible: Any scale, finished subjects as outlined: Autos that have “T” names such as Toronado, Tempest, Tiger, Torino, Talledega, etc. Aircraft that are “T” named such as Tomcat, Tempest, Tigercat, Thunderjet, etc. Plus of course “T” for Trainer mission aircraft. Armor builders may also rejoice, of course. Eligible are Tigers, all manner of Soviet “T” tanks (T-34, 55, 74 among them) USA T-26 Pershings, etc. Maritime and Prehistoric buffs need not feel slighted, Typhoons, Ticonderoga, Triceratops or a T-Rex all fair game as quick examples. Figure and Fantasy/SciFi builders, please! Show us your imaginative entry sense. As this will be the last chance in 2009 for us to have an in house club contest, The SVSM editor is offering up to 9 awards if attendance warrants them all.

“ F is for February ” SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME for FEBRUARY 2010

Eligible: Any scale, finished: F is for Fighter, Ford or Frigate. Or any Fallschirmjager, Fantasy Fraulein, or Frankenstein. Or F is for Foto recon aircraft, or Firefly or Ferdinand or Ferrari ... I trust everyone who wants to furiously compete can find something suitably “F'd” enough to suit them.

PLUS NOW ANNOUNCING TWO NEW ONES THANKS TO OUR NEW VP & A RETURNING ONE

“ SPECIAL DELIVERY Hot August Nights ”

SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME for August 2009

Eligible: Any scale, finished: Nuclear Weapon or Special Weapons delivery system. Get those Bock's Car (s) jamming the table with Enola Gay, smash the styrene atomic structure of “Little Boy, Fat Man” into completion, Honest John looks better built up, so does any number of B-47, B-36, B-52, B-58, Mirage IVA, SSBN...

“ BATTLE OF BRITAIN ”

SVSM CLUB CONTEST THEME for September 2009

Eligible: Any scale, finished: Air Land or Sea subject suitably employed in the summer and fall months that comprise “Their Finest Hour”. Summer to September 1940 is a good working frame if you like specifics. At Least Hurri Up, as them bloody Heinkels are coming , You better Spitfire at them Fokkers I mean Messerschmitts

May Minutes

At the May meeting, we voted in a new slate of officers: President Kent McClure, Newsletter Editor Mike Burton, Treasurer Bill Ferrante, Secretary Chris Bucholtz and vice presidents Laramie Wright, Greg Plummer and Eric McClure. Many thanks were extended to Randy Ray for his two-year superconstitutional term as president!

Thanks were extended all around to the people who helped make the Kickoff Classic a success, especially Laramie for facilities, Mike Burton for the make and take, and Mark McDonald for the raffle. The entire chapter pitched in to make the show great; everyone should pat themselves on the back!

In Model Talk... Mike Burton kicked things off with a Tamiya A6M3 "Hamp," which he finished with Tamiya paints, making it a truly authentic Japanese subject. Closer to California is his low rider, fashioned from a Revell Monogram Mustang 5.0 that was kited as a custom car. Also present were a batch of P-40s, including Hasegawa's rendition of the 15,000th Curtiss fighter, a HobbyBoss Kittyhawk Mk. III, and a Pacific P-40, "Tweetie," painted coral pink and azure blue – or skin tone and Russian topside blue, as Mike used to good effect. Also from Mike's stable was his first Tamiya P-51K, "Little lassie," which wears AeroMaster decals. Paul Bishop's building Dragon's Panzer IV Smart Kit; he says there are lots of small parts and it behooves you to pay close attention to the instructions. Cliff Kranz is working on an aftermarket 10-ton crane for the FAMO halftrack, and he has two Messerschmitts in progress, an MPM Bf 109T and a long-winged variant. Cliff's also enthused about Revell's 9-ton and 7-ton Mann trucks from Revell, which look great built up. He's still looking for an 8-ton version. Kent McClure's latest endeavor is the Italeri A6/40 Italian tank, an oldie but one with plenty of personality.. Laramie Wright says that HobbyBoss' Cadillac-Gage V-100 is simple but nice; it has a partial interior which is inaccurate, but also invisible! The hatches are also rather toy-like, so Laramie plans to make new hinges. His Trumpeter LAV-25 is much nicer, despite some challenging engineering around the axles. His model had in place just a few of the many brass parts it will have. Jim Priete is kitbashing a Ju 488 in 1:72, using parts from Ju 188, 288 and 388 kits from Huma and Italeri. Jim says the project has been easier than he thought it would be! Dave Margola built Tamiya's F4U-1D for a golf buddy, then outfitted it with an electrical motor in the cowling, allowing the propeller to start and run. He painted it with Model Master Acryl paints for the blue camouflage and Tamiya primer for the white undersides, finishing it as Tom Blackburn's "Big Hog." Ken Miller says there are differences between the many iterations of Revell's 707 kits; for the example he's building, he'll add early engines stolen from another kit and make his own tall tail for his American Airlines example. Ken's DC-8 took a second place at the Kickoff Classic, and his 1:144 Metroliner is finished and looks great. Jim Lund brought in his impressive Boeing 314 diorama, based around an Atlantic Models vacuformed model and surrounded with Prieser figures and a boat from the same company. Eric McClure has his DML 1:35 M16 halftrack assembled, and ready for paint, but first he may fix the base for the guns, since it seems too high. Eric also had to make a new bucket after he sanded the other one away; he used metal foil from the lid of a coffee can. John Carr's first try at a figure with a camouflaged uniform is Dragon's Hermann Goering Division signalman. He's still working on the figure's head. Jack Clark was surprised at how easy his 1:18 V-1 was to build, but he got more trouble from Revell's 1:24 Reynard race car, which he completed as Alex Barron's ride. He had no trouble with Otaki's 1:144 RA-5C Vigilante, which he said turned out "smooth," and the decals went on nicely on his Hasegawa A6M Zero in 1:48 scale. Ben Pada built Tamiya's Bf 109E-4; shockingly, he used Gunze Sangyo paints and AeroMaster decals. He also built a Tamiya P-47D, finishing the metal scheme with Alclad and hand-painting the petal design on the cowling. Dave Balderrama is battling his way through the Czech Models 1:48 Bv 40 glider, which has extremely poor fit, he says. Richard Linderer constructing the old Revell 3-in-1 kit featuring the I-16, PZL.11 and CR.42. These 1969-vintage models have no instrument panels, but the engines are removable! Bill Ferrante's attempt at a "Zero Hour" contest entry was to be an A6M with an unusual green paint job topped off by an orange tail, photographed in the Philippines. His starting spot was the Hasegawa kit, and his ending spot is yet to come. Bill also is working on the Roden Albatros D.II, which fits great when the parts actually are large enough to touch. Chris Bucholtz discovered the terrible fit of the windscreen of Tamiya's P-51D Mustang only after he painted the anti-glare panel, which showed up all the problems. His P-40E now wears a coat of Olive Drab 41, which he made by adding some red to a bottle of the approximate FS color for this pre-war shade. Finally, his F-4B Phantom II is finished; Chris completed the model the night before the Kickoff Classic and it won its category 13 hours later. Gabriel Lee has completed his Space Cruiser Wisconsin, and only slightly less outlandish is his Bandai Thunderbird II, which he also finished this month. Note that neither is a Venezuelan subject. Ron Wergin used the salt trick to chip the paint on his 1:72 Aoshima N1K2-J; he applied Tamiya silver, then put on some wet salt and let it dry, then hit it with Gunze Sangyo IJN green. When the salt was rubbed off, he had a chipped paint job. Frank Babbitt commended the fit of Tamiya's 1:72 Fw 190D-9; the Dora went together without any struggle, he said. And the model of the month goes to... Tom Trankle's Fairey Swordfish, which was four years in the making! Tom says it's a magnificent kit, and the engineering makes it's "sort of self-aligning." His torpedo went through several paint schemes before he settled on a patchy coat of Gunze Sangyo dark gray. He added Eduard details to the model and finished it in the marking of one of the Bismarck raiders.



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